

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8521

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : HCSN

SUBJECT : CBG BOARD MEETING DISCUSSES CEREMONIAL INAUGURATION, AFRICANIZATION AND SHIPPING

1. CBG PRESIDENT KEITH WALKER AND OTHER CBG OFFICIALS IN A DISCUSSION WITH THE AMBASSADOR AND EMBOFFS GAVE THE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON THE CBG BOARD MEETING AT KAMSAR MARCH 15-16.
  2. THE GUINEAN BOARD MEMBERS BROUGHT ALONG TWO LIBERIAN CABINET MINISTERS WHO SAT IN THROUGHOUT MEETINGS. ( WE LEARNED FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT THE MINISTERS WHO HAD COME TO STUDY THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GUINEA AND ITS BOKE PARTNERS WERE VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH THE LIBERAL TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT PARTICULARLY CONCERNING TRAINING, AFRICANIZATION, AMERICAN PARTICIPATION AND THE PROFIT- SHARING ARRANGEMENT.)
  3. GUINEANS INFORMED BOARD THAT AMONG OTHERS THEY WOULD PROBABLY INVITE 10 CHIEFS OF STATE FOR THE MAY 14 CEREMONIAL INAUGURATION. SUM TOTAL OF INVITEES WOULD BE 400 FOREIGNERS AND 1,000 GUINEANS. LOGISTIC PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN PREPARING FOR THE LARGE NUMBER OF INVITEES ARE GIVING CBG OFFICIALS NIGHTMARES. NO ORE WILL BE SHIPPED AT THE CEREMONIAL OPENING BUT WALKER IS CONFIDENT THAT ORE SHIPMENTS CAN BEGIN AUGUST 16.
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4. GUINEANS PUSHED HARD FOR 100 PERCENT AFRICANIZATION OF THE PRODUCTION FORCE WITHIN SIX YEARS. WALKER SAID THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE BUT OTHER CBG OFFICIALS ADDED THAT TRAINING IN SOME CATEGORIES WOULD POSE REAL PROBLEMS. WALKER SAID HE AND HIS ASSOCIATES WERE SATISFIED WHEN THE DISCUSSIONS ENDED WITH AGREEMENT ON AFRICANIZATION EXPRESSED IN GENERAL, FLEXIBLE TERMS.

5. SOTRAMAR REPRESENTATIVES ALSO APPEARED AT THE MEETING BUT DISCUSSIONS ON THE GUINEAN DESIRE TO SHIP 50 PERCENT OF BOKE PRODUCTION IN GUINEAN FLAG VESSELS DID NOT PROGRESS. SOTRAMAR STILL MUST PRESENT PROPOSALS TO EACH PARTNER-PURCHASER ON TERMS COMPETITIVE WITH WORLD MARKET PRICES. THEY HAVE NOT YET CONTACTED ALL PARTNERS AND HAVE YET TO MAKE COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS.

6. WALKER IS LEAVING GUINEA MARCH 20 BUT PLANS TO RETURN AT THE END OF APRIL TO MAKE SURE THE CEREMONIAL INAUGURATION PLANS ARE ON THE TRACK.  
TODMAN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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